Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 5-6, 20, and 22-24 are cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 25-48 are being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, are presented. The text of all claims presently under examination is presented below in the listing of claims, and all claims are presented with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Detailed and Complete Listing of Claims:

1-24 (Cancelled).

25. (New) A vaccine comprising a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence with at least 90 % sequence identity to SEQ ID No. 25 and an acceptable pharmaceutical vehicle, wherein said nucleic acid encodes an immunogenic protein that induces a protective response effective against infection by a piglet weight loss disease circovirus.

26. (New) A vaccine according to claim 25, wherein said nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID No. 25.

27. (New) A vaccine according to claim 25, further comprising an adjuvant.

28. (New) A vaccine according to claim 25, wherein said nucleic acid has a nucleotide sequence with at least 95 % sequence identity to SEQ ID No. 25.

29. (New) A method of immunizing a mammal against piglet weight loss disease comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a vaccine,

wherein said vaccine comprises a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence with at least 90 % sequence identity to SEQ ID No. 25 and an acceptable pharmaceutical vehicle, wherein said nucleic acid encodes an immunogenic protein that induces a protective response effective against infection by a piglet weight loss disease circovirus.

30. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein said nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID No. 25.

31. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein said vaccine further comprises an adjuvant.

32. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein said nucleic acid has a nucleotide sequence with at least 95 % sequence identity to SEQ ID No. 25.

33. (New) A vaccine comprising a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence with at least 95 % sequence identity to SEQ ID No. 25, an acceptable pharmaceutical vehicle, and an adjuvant, wherein said nucleic acid encodes an immunogenic protein that induces a protective response effective against infection by a piglet weight loss disease circovirus.

34. (New) A vaccine according to claim 33, wherein said nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID No. 25.

35. (New) A method of immunizing a mammal against piglet weight loss disease comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a vaccine according to claim 34.

36. (New) A method of immunizing a mammal against piglet weight loss disease comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a vaccine according to claim 33.

37. (New) A method for growing circoviruses, in particular porcine circoviruses (PCV), which comprises circoviruses obtained from an infected cell culture being, after one or more passages in cultures of porcine, bovine or human cells, developed in these cell cultures and a cytopathogenic effect occurring thereby.

38. (New) A method for neutralizing or removing circoviruses from biological material, which comprises treating it with an antibody-containing substrate such as porcine serum or human immunoglobulin or subjecting it to a pasteurization method.

39. (New) A method for detecting and quantifying antibodies directed against circoviruses by the ELISA method, which comprises circoviruses being incubated, after adsorption onto a support material, with the serum to be investigated and thus being bound to a primary antibody present in the serum, and subsequently a secondary, labeled antibody directed against the primary antibody being brought into contact therewith, and then the signal emitted by the bound, labeled antibody being measured.

40. (New) A method for detecting and quantifying the circovirus antigen by the ELISA method, which comprises an antibody against circoviruses which is bound to a support material being incubated with the serum to be investigated for circovirus antigen, and thus the antigen being bound, and the latter being brought into contact with a labeled antibody directed against the antigen and, after the unbound, labeled antibody has been washed out, the signal emitted by the bound, labeled antibody being measured.

41. (New) A vaccine which comprises inactivated or avirulent circoviruses.

42. (New) A diagnostic aid which comprises inactivated or avirulent circoviruses.

43. (New) The use of circoviruses for investigating the capacity of a method for manufacturing pharmaceuticals of biological origin, of additives for the manufacture of pharmaceuticals or of a diagnostic aid to inactivate and/or remove circoviruses or related viruses.

44. (New) A method of growing a porcine circovirus (PCV), comprising culturing porcine cells that are infected with PWD circovirus type A (PCVA) and/or PWD circovirus of type B (PCVB).

45. (New) A method of neutralizing or removing a porcine circovirus (PCV) from a host, comprising administering to a host at least one antibody chosen from mono- and polyclonal antibodies, fragments of mono- and polyclonal antibodies, and chimeric antibodies, wherein said antibodies are capable of specifically recognizing a polypeptide expressed by porcine circovirus (PVC).

46. (New) A method for detecting and quantifying antibodies directed against circoviruses by the ELISA method, which comprises depositing a polypeptide expressed by a porcine circovirus (PCV) in the wells of a microtiter plate, introducing into said wells a biological sample containing PCV to be analyzed, incubating the microtiter plate, introducing into said wells of the microtiter plate labeled antibodies directed against pig immunoglobulins, the labeling of these antibodies having been carried out with the aid of an enzyme selected from those which are capable of hydrolyzing a substrate by modifying the absorption of the radiation of the substrate, at least at a determined wavelength, and detecting, by comparison with a control test, of the quantity of hydrolyzed substrate.

47. (New) A vaccine, which comprises an attenuated or inactivated viral particle comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for a polypeptide of PWD circovirus.

48. (New) A kit for diagnosing infection by a PWD circovirus, which comprises an attenuated or inactivated viral particle comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for a polypeptide of PWD circovirus.